



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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FISHING VESSEL LANDINGS AT SEATTLE IN FEBRUARY

During February, the United States halibut fleet landed 968,000 pounds of fishery products, worth \$584,000, at Seattle, as the result of 112 trips to North Pacific grounds, according to monthly summary figures released today by the Seattle Fishery Market News office of the Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior.

Compared with February 1941, when a total of 360,000 pounds was landed, valued at \$23,000, the 1942 figures represent an increase in volume of 608,000 pounds, and an increase in value of \$561,000. The bulk of this great increase, both in catch and value is, of course, directly because of the boom in dogfish and soupfin shark livers.

Species landed in February of this year included 24,000 pounds of sablefish, valued at \$2500; 445,000 pounds of "lingcod", valued at \$31,000; and 124,000 pounds of rockfishes, valued at \$9,000. In addition, however, there were 273,000 pounds of dogfish livers, 73,000 pounds of soupfin shark livers, and 29,000 pounds of other fish livers sold over the Seattle Fish Exchange at a value of \$13,000.

For the two months of 1942, halibut fleet landings at Seattle totaled 1,108,000 pounds, valued at \$644,000. For the same period in 1941, landings amounted to 545,000 pounds worth \$39,000.

Miscellaneous receipts, by Seattle wholesale dealers, exclusive of the halibut fleet and fish received from Alaska and Canada, totaled 1,526,000 pounds, valued at \$662,000, divided among 25 classifications. Compared with 1,275,000 pounds, valued at \$85,000, received during February 1941, this represents an increase of 51,000 pounds, or 4 percent, in volume, and an increase of about \$577,000, or 681 percent, in value. The latter increase is again due largely to the newly developed fishery for soupfin sharks and dogfish and the high prices paid for their livers.

Pacific coast cold storage figures for halibut and salmon as reported by 20 warehouses in Washington, Alaska, and British Columbia, indicate 3,354,000 pounds (as of the period from February 16 to 28) moved, and 7,304,000 pounds in holdings.

Additional receipts by Seattle wholesale dealers show a total, for fresh and frozen fish and shellfish, of 952,000 pounds for 1942, as against 1,766,000 pounds in February of last year, a 46 percent decrease. Totals for the first two months of each year, however, are about even at approximately 2-3/4 million pounds.

Average fishermen's prices and price ranges, as paid in Seattle, are also listed in the reports.

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